REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 6 are rejected as anticipated by 4,822,997. Claims 10-22 are indicated as allowed, and claims 3-5 and 7-9 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base and intervening claims.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge allowance of Claims 10-22.

Rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 6 as anticipated by 4, 822, 997

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 6.

Anticipation requires that a single prior art reference (in this case US 4,822,997 to Fuller et al.), teach each and every limit of the claims in question.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a connector for attaching an energy delivery device to an energy generator by rotation of the connector about a longitdudinal axis, a contact pad plane parallel to the longitudinal axis, and at least one contact surface located on the contact pad, wherein a line through the contact surface and perpendicular to the contact pad is skew to the longitudinal axis.

First, it is not clear how 4,822,997 teaches a connector for attaching an energy delivery device to an energy generator by rotation. Patent 4,822,997 discloses connector 118 having a male mating half 118a and a female mating half of 118b of connector 118. However, it is respectfully urged that it is not clear what in the '997 patent the Examiner relies on for the purpose of disclosing attaching an energy delivery device to an energy generator by rotation about a longitudinal axis.

Second, it is not clear how 4,822,997 teaches a contact pad plane parallel to the longitudinal axis of rotation. As noted above, it is not clear how the '997 patent teaches such rotation. Accordingly, it is also unclear how the '997 can teach a contact pad plane parallel to such a longitudinal axis.

Note that the Examiner's explanation with respect the contact pad plane and the contact pad orientation is:

> "wherein a line through the contact surface and perpendicular to said contact plane is skew to said longitudinal axis (118 has a contact surface)"

The Examiner is respectfully requested to identify the surface on 118 (118 is a connector) to which the Examiner is referring, and how this surface is oriented to satisfy the language of Claim 1.

With respect to Claim 2, the Examiner states that :

> "As to claim 2, section 118 is a flange extending from the barrel of the connector"

It is respectfully urged that this statement is not consistent with the description in the '997 patent. The Examiner states "section 118 is a flange" but in fact the component numbered "118" in the '997 patent is a "connector". (See lines 25-37 of Col. 2). If the Examiner is indicating that connector 118 includes a flange, then the Examiner is requested to explain which part of the connector is a flange, and indicate where in the patent a contact pad is indicated as being located on the flange. The Examiner is asked to identify the flange and the contact pad located on the flange.

Further, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide a clear indication of what portions of the '997 patent the Examiner is relying on for the rejection, so that Applicants have a full and fair opportunity to respond. To this end, it is respectfully urged that the Examiner not issue a final rejection until the clarification requested is provided, so as to provide Applicant a full and fair opportunity to respond.

With respect to Claim 6, the Examiner is requested to point out and clarify how the '997 patent teaches or suggests:

an energy transfer attachment for transferring energy from said energy generator to said energy delivery device, said energy transfer attachment located on said barrel;

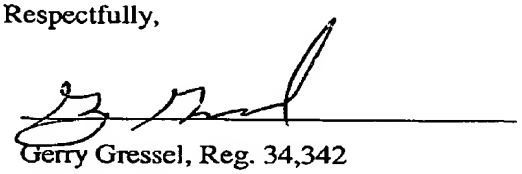
a flange radially extending from said barrel; and

at least one contact pad located on said flange.

In particular, the Examiner is requested to please explain what specifically in the text or Figure 3 (or any of the Figures of the '997 patent) discloses a flange radially extending from a barrel and at least one contact pad located on the flange. If a portion of the connector is considered to be a flange, the Examiner is asked to identify the flange and the contact pad located on the flange.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and allow the claims.

Respectfully,



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